# CORONAVIRUS 19 HEALTH

It is unknown if pregnant women have a greater chance of getting sick from COVID-19 than the general public. However, some of the changes that occur in women's bodies during pregnancy may increase their risk for some infections. Pregnant people have had a higher risk of severe illness when infected with other viral respiratory infections such as influenza.

If you have a fever, cough or shortness of breath, stay home and contact your health care provider. Don't go to work or school.

## Get rest and stay hydrated.

If you are not sick enough to be hospitalized you can recover at home.

### **Monitor your symptoms.**

If your symptoms get worse, call your healthcare provider immediately.

#### Breastmilk is the best nutrition for most babies.

It is still unknown if mothers with confirmed COVID-19 can transmit via breastmilk.

# If you test positive for COVID-19, or are awaiting test results:

- Talk to your healthcare provider before starting or continuing breastfeeding. You may be able to use a breast pump to express your milk.
- If you choose to direct breastfeed, wear a facemask and wash your hands carefully.
- If you choose to express breast milk, use a dedicated breast pump and wash your hands carefully before touching the pump or bottle parts and before expresing breastmilk. Follow manufactuer's guidelines on cleaning breast pump parts.
- A healthy family member or caregiver can feed the breastmilk to your baby.
- If you are in labor, call the hospital or medical facility before you arrive to give the staff time to take proper infection control precautions to protect your baby.

# Take care of your health.

- · Continue to attend prenatal care visits. Use telemedicine/telehealth for medical visits if your insurance offers it.
- Keep up healthy habits: healthy eating, exercising, getting enough sleep and managing stress.

**Stock up on 2-3 weeks** of non-persihable food, prescriptions, and medical and health care supplies.

**Create a contact list** for family, friends, neighbors. healthcare providers, drivers, and community assistance programs. Let them know you may need help if you become sick.



